

**Fact Sheet
August 2003**

**Promontory Elementary School
Draft Removal Action Workplan
30-Day Comment Period and
Public Meeting**



EL DORADO HILLS, CALIFORNIA

*DTSC is one of six
Boards and
Departments within
the California
Environmental
Protection Agency.
The Department's
mission is to restore,
protect and enhance
the environment,
to ensure public health,
environmental
quality and
economic vitality,
by regulating
hazardous waste,
conducting and
overseeing
cleanups, and
developing
and promoting
pollution prevention.*

State of California



**California
Environmental
Protection Agency**



Why am I receiving this fact sheet?

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and the Rescue Union School District (RUSD) are providing this fact sheet to inform nearby residences of the public comment period and public meeting for the draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) for the proposed Promontory Elementary School site (Site) located at Northeast Corner of Brittany Way and Ambiance Street, El Dorado Hills, California.

What is the Promontory Elementary School Site?

The Site is a vacant 10.177-acre parcel of land which is located in a new single-family subdivision in the foothills at the western boundary of El Dorado and Sacramento County. The Site was used as cattle grazing rangeland both recently and historically. Aerial photographs taken from 1952-1996 indicate that the land was open space and used as grazing rangeland.

The RUSD indicates that the district can expect up to 700 additional students by the 2008-09 school year and in order to accommodate the increasing population of school-aged children throughout the El Dorado Hills region, RUSD has embarked in building the Promontory Elementary School.

Why Is The Site Being Addressed Now?

In an effort to build a school at the Site, RUSD first needed to address any potential environmental conditions at the proposed Site. In April 2003, RUSD conducted an

**Public Meeting and
30-Day Comment
Period**

A public meeting will be held on Tuesday, August, 19, 2003 at the Rescue Union School District's Office, located at 2390 Bass Lake Road, Rescue, California from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

At the meeting we invite your comments and questions about the proposed cleanup actions described in the RAW. DTSC will conduct a 30-day Comment Period starting on Saturday, August 2, 2003 and ending on Tuesday, September 2, 2003.

DTSC encourages the public to review and comment on the Draft RAW being proposed.

Mail written comments to: DTSC, Michael Lozano, Project Manager, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, CA 95826 or via e-mail at mlozano@dtsc.ca.gov All mail must be postmarked by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 2, 2003. E-mailed comments must be sent to DTSC no later than 5:00 p.m. on the same date.

Environmental Assessment (EA) to determine whether current or past activities at the Site impacted the environment. During the EA detections of Naturally Occurring Asbestos (NOA) was found in the existing soil and underlying rock. The purpose of the EA was to evaluate if NOA could potentially be a health risk to the users of the school. The Site was determined to need a certain amount of cleanup to have a level acceptable for its intended use as a school.

In May 2003, RUSD entered into a Voluntary Cleanup Agreement with DTSC which stated that RUSD would cleanup the Site and DTSC would provide regulatory oversight during the cleanup. RUSD, and their environmental contractor developed a draft RAW to outline methods used for the remedy and containment of the NOA at the Site.

What Is Naturally Occurring Asbestos?

Asbestos is classified by the Environmental Protection Agency as a known human carcinogen. Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral that has been found in rocks with serpentine minerals, in some soapstone (talc), and in association with faults. Additionally, trace levels have been found with some thermally altered rocks that contain amphibole minerals. NOA has been identified as a potential health hazard. The primary pathway for asbestos is the inhalation of dust containing asbestos fibers.

What Is Being Proposed In The Draft RAW?

The draft RAW is a cleanup plan summarizing the proposed remedy and cleanup activities at the site. The following cleanup methods are proposed:

- Importing clean fill to be used as cover for all areas that are not otherwise encapsulated by buildings or asphalt materials.
- Planned trench areas for irrigation systems and some electrical systems will be pre-excavated and backfilled with clean fill material to 6 inches below planned installation depth.
- Geotextile fabric will be installed on top of the fill material containing NOA prior to

installation of clean fill.

- Dust control measures will be implemented.

After contaminated soil has been capped or clean fill has been put in place, confirmation soil samples will be taken in the excavated areas to ensure that the contamination was contained.

Before DTSC approves, denies, or amends the draft RAW, it is made available for the public review and comment during a 30-day public comment period. All comments received during the comment period are considered by DTSC before making a final decision. Once a decision has been made, a document called a Response To Comments is made available to anyone who submitted comments, anyone requesting a copy, and to all of the information repositories that have been established for this Site. The Response to Comments addresses all of the comments received by DTSC.

In addition to the draft RAW, this project is being evaluated under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The proposed cleanup option outlined in the draft RAW is considered exempt from CEQA because it is not considered to pose a risk to the environment. Therefore, the CEQA determination for this project is A Notice of Exemption. The Notice of Exemption is also available for public review and copies can be found at the information repositories established for this Site.

What Will I See During Cleanup?

During the earthwork construction process, you will see personnel on the Site operating various heavy equipment including: bulldozers, scrapers, excavators, compactors, and water trucks.

Earthwork will consist primarily of cutting into the hillsides and placing this material into the low areas thus creating flat areas suitable for buildings, parking lots, and sports fields. All earth will be assumed to contain NOA. Dust generation will be prevented by lightly spraying water on all excavation and fill surfaces during construction and by other stabilization

measures during periods of construction inactivity. No soil presumed to contain NOA will leave the site. All vehicles that have been driving on the soil will be washed at special areas on the site before leaving the site to prevent tracking of mud containing NOA onto surrounding roadways.

What Happens After The Cleanup?

Once DTSC determines that the cleanup is complete, it notifies RUSD. RUSD can then move forward and develop the Site for a school.

Information Repositories

The draft RAW and other documents for Promontory Elementary School are available for review at the following locations:

Department of Toxic Substances Control

8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826-3200
Mr. Michael Lozano, P.E., Project Manager
(916) 255-6523

DTSC's File Room:

Monday to Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
By appointment only (916) 255-3758

Rescue Union School District Office

2390 Bass Lake Road
Rescue, California
(530) 677-5446
Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

For More Information

If you would like more information or have questions on the draft Removal Action Workplan, please contact Mr. Michael Lozano, DTSC, Project Manager at (916) 255-6523 or Ms. Suzanne King, RUSD, Superintendent, at (530) 677-5446. For questions about the public participation process, contact Ms. Michelle Trotter, DTSC, Public Participation Specialist, at (916) 255-6441. Members of the media should contact Ms. Lisa Gray, DTSC, Public Information Officer at (916) 324-0936.

Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals

TDD users can use the California Relay Service at (1-888-877-5378) and ask to speak to Ms. Trotter at (916) 255-6441.

Glossary

Asbestos - Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral and a known human carcinogen as classified by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) - A plan of activities taken at a site to address a known or potential environmental problem.

Mailing List

If you have any comments concerning the draft Removal Action Workplan for the Promontory Elementary School or if you would like to be added to the site specific mailing list, please take a moment to fill out the information below and mail it to Ms. Michelle Trotter, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, California 95826.

DTSC mailing lists are solely for the purpose of keeping persons informed of DTSC activities. Mailing lists are considered public records and if requested may be subject to release.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip

Code: _____

Comments: _____



Department of Toxic Substances Control
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826-3200
Attention: Michelle Trotter

Inside:

The public is invited to comment and attend a meeting on the Promontory Elementary School's Removal Action Workplan
